

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/574,278**
Amendment filed September 3, 2009
Reply to OA dated March 5, 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): Crystals of 2 β -chloromethyl-2 α -methylpenam-3 α -carboxylic acid benzhydryl ester.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled)

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A process for producing crystals of 2 β -chloromethyl-2 α -methylpenam-3 α -carboxylic acid benzhydryl ester comprising the steps of:

(A) concentrating a solution containing 2 β -chloromethyl-2 α -methylpenam-3 α -carboxylic acid benzhydryl ester (CMPB);

(B) subjecting the thus-obtained concentrate to column chromatography;

(C) concentrating a CMPB-containing fraction; and

(D) adding the thus-obtained CMPB-containing concentrate [[in]] to an ether solvent and then adding the resultant solution to a hydrocarbon solvent to precipitate CMPB crystals.